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THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE MOOSE IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY J. A. ALLEN.

IN consequence of their large size, the value of their flesh, and the pleasure attending their chase, the different members of the deer family (*Cervidæ*) are among the first to disappear before the progress of civilization in a newly settled country. The moose (*Alce malchis*), like the caribou (*Tarandus rangifer*), doubtless once existed in Southern New England, though I have seen no record of its occurrence in the south-eastern portions since the settlement there of Europeans. It probably remained in the mountainous districts till a later period, but for many years has been extinct in Massachusetts, Southern Vermont and New Hampshire, and Southern Maine.

IN answer to my inquiries in respect to its present southern limit in Maine, Mr. J. G. Rich, the well-known hunter and trapper, writes me in substance as follows: "Although now scarce in that state, it is first met with on the Penobscot at about eighty miles above Bangor; on the Kennebec north of the Forks in Somerset county; at Kennebago Lake, and to the northward of Rangely Lake in Franklin county; and north of the Agiscohas Mountain on the Margalloway River, in Oxford county." A few also exist in the extreme northern parts of New Hampshire and Vermont, and in the Adirondacks of New York. As the experienced hunter finds it a not very difficult animal to capture, the moose unless protected by law, must soon become extinct throughout the New England States. The legislature of Maine has already passed a stringent game law for their protection, which it is to be hoped may be carefully enforced.

Mr. Rich's long experience as a trapper and hunter in the Maine woods, has rendered him thoroughly familiar with the

habits of the moose and the other large mammals of this region; and some years since (in 1860) he published an interesting series of articles in the now defunct "Bethel Courier," on the "Wild Animals of Maine," in which he brought together facts of great value to the naturalist, including the most complete history of the moose yet extant. It is to be hoped that he will be able to soon reissue these valuable sketches in a more permanent form.

NOTES ON CERTAIN INLAND BIRDS OF NEW JERSEY.

BY CHARLES C. ABBOTT, M.D.

THE ornithological fauna of New Jersey having undergone some changes within the last few years, it may prove interesting to ornithologists to have the results of ten years constant, careful observation as to the movements of our inland birds; comprising those that are resident; those coming from the South in the spring, and visitors from the North in winter. Certain species formerly abundant are now rare; and others formerly but seldom met with, are now abundant. As an instance we will mention the Summer Red-bird (*Pyrranga aestiva*), which may no longer be accounted a summer resident, although prior to 1857 it was abundant; and on the other hand the Snow-bunting (*Plectrophanes nivalis*), which previous to 1865, was a very rare visitor, and then only during very severe winters, and since has as regularly appeared as the *Junco hyemalis*. They do not appear, like them, early in October, but after considerable snow has fallen. During the winters of '67, '68 and '69, they were so abundant that hundreds of dozens killed on the outskirts of the town (Trenton, Mercer Co.), were offered for sale in our markets. Every additional snow storm seemed to in-